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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/749,144	12/27/2000	Wouter Roorda	3764.P142	4762

8791 7590 08/10/2007
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EXAMINER

BENTON, JASON

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3747

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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08/10/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/749,144	ROORDA, WOUTER	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jason Benton	3747	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 January 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8, 10, 11, 24 and 33-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8, 10, 11, 24 and 33-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 8, 24, 33, 34, 36, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Duffy.

The patent by Duffy (6,048,332) shows the method of delivering an arteriogenic factor to a vessel region in a medically effective manner to structurally enlarge an existing blood vessel.

It is the opinion of the examiner that the delivery of an arteriogenic factor to a vessel region would result in the arteriogenic factor being supplied to the primary vessel and any bypass vessel in the region.

The examiner agrees that the vessel region of Duffy is not inherently injured. However, catheters commonly touch the vessel wall, and it is the view of the examiner that should the catheter touch the vessel wall, damage is done. Therefore it is the view of the examiner that the patent by Duffy showing a catheter to be introduced into a blood vessel region would be capable of performing as is required in the claim limitations, even if it does not specifically state in the patent that damage is done to the blood vessel wall.

A needle catheter or a balloon catheter is provided to accommodate the arteriogenic factor. The arteriogenic factor is advanced from the needle catheter or the balloon catheter to the vessel region.

The patent by Duffy (6,048,332) does not specify the delivery timing of the arteriogenic factor. It is the view of the examiner that the length of delivery duration and the timing of delivery is an obvious choice of design dependant on the type of arteriogenic factor being delivered to the blood vessel region.

Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Duffy.

The patent by Duffy (6,048,332) does not specify the temperature of the catheter. It is the view of the examiner that the temperature of the catheter is an obvious choice of design dependant on the type of arteriogenic factor being delivered to the blood vessel region.

Claims 4 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Duffy.

The patent by Duffy (6,048,332) does not specify that the arteriogenic factor can be delivered with a syringe. It is the view of the examiner that the method of delivery of the factor, whether it is a syringe or catheter is an obvious choice of design. Both methods of delivery are well known in the art and no new or unexpected results are achieved by delivering the arteriogenic factor with a syringe rather than a catheter.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, see page 9 of appeal brief, filed 1/08/07, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1, 5-6, 8, 24, 36, and 37 under 102(e) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Duffy. As was stated previously, the examiner agrees that the catheter of Duffy does not inherently injure the blood vessel region but is capable of injuring.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason Benton whose telephone number is (571) 272-4838. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steve Cronin can be reached on (571) 272-4536. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JB


STEPHEN K. CRONIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER